

# (U//~~FOUO~~) 1950s Intelligence Chronology



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Intelligence History Portal

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## 1950

- Early 1950: Guy Burgess reprimanded by Foreign Office for recent loose talk
- January: Senate creates SISS, with Pat McCarran as chair, Benjamin Mandel as research director (McCarthy was never on it?)
- 19 January: Intelligence community comes to an agreement on handling defectors
- 21 January: (U) Alger Hiss's second perjury trial ends; he is found guilty of perjury and espionage
- 25 January: (U) Hiss is sentenced to five years in prison
- 31 January: President Truman authorizes the US development of a hydrogen bomb

- 02 February: Klaus Fuchs is arrested by British Security agents based on an FBI tip; he is charged with giving atomic bomb secrets to the Soviets
- 09 February: Senator Joseph McCarthy gives a speech in Wheeling, W.Va., charging that the State Department is riddled with Communists
- 14 February: Sino/Soviet Mutual Assistance Treaty signed
- 20 March: CIA Office of Logistics created
- 14 April: NSC 68 calls for the US buildup in response to the Soviet threat
- 15 May: OPC Far East Division is established
- 25 June: North Korea invades the South Korea beginning the Korean War
- 27 June: President Truman "leashed" Chinese Nationalists
- July: OPC begins buildup for war in Asia
- 01 July: ICAPS is renamed COAPS and is given additional functions
- 04 July: First broadcast by Radio Free Europe
- 17 July: Julius Rosenberg is arrested
- 23 August: OPC purchased CAT airline

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- 15 September: Inchon landings send the North Koreans into retreat
- 23 September: McCarran Internal Security Act is passed
- 07 October: Walter Bedell Smith becomes the DCI replacing Roscoe H. Hillenkoetter
- 12 October: DCI Smith ordered that directives to OPC must go through DCI
- 20 October: The interdepartmental role of the IAC is reinforced
- November: [REDACTED]
- 01 November: Failed assassination of President Truman by Puerto Rican Nationalists
- 13 November: ONE and ORR are established; ORE is abolished
- 16 November: Allen Dulles joins the CIA as a Special Assistant to DCI Smith
- 26 November: People's Republic of China launched massive intervention in the Korean War
- 30 November: JOT program is inaugurated; the first training class begins on 9 July 1951
- December: Liaison and exchange agreement is reached in the UK
- 01 December:
  - DDA is established replacing CIA Executive
  - Central Office of Personnel is created
- 28 December: IAC Watch Committee is established

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## 1951

- "Voice of America" radio station begins Estonian language broadcasts
- William Martin and Berton Mitchell meet while on tour with the US Navy in Japan
- 04 January: DDP is established with Allen Dulles as the chief
- 15 January: OCI is established; begins to publish all-source CIB
- [REDACTED]
- February: Defector Reception Center is opened in Germany
- 09 February: "Gray Treaty" is written; divides responsibilities for US foreign propaganda
- March: Staff study is completed on the merger of OPC and OSO
- 06 March: The trial of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, David Greenglass, and Morton Sobell begins in the US District Court, New York City
- 14 March: Korean War: For the 2nd time UN troops recaptured Seoul
- 15 March: (U) Jacobo Arbenz is President of Guatemala
- April: OPC submits initial War Plan; receives JCS approval in December 1951
- 04 April: Psychological Strategy board is established
- 05 April: Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, David Greenglass and Morton Sobol are convicted and sentenced; the Rosenbergs are sentenced to death, Sobell to 20 years, and Greenglass to 15 years
- 11 April: General MacArthur is removed from the Far East Command
- May:
  - [REDACTED]
- 08 May: DCI Smith memo to NSC on scope and pace of covert operations is sent
- 21 May: Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean of the KGB defected; Kim Philby recalled from the US
- [REDACTED]
- 22 June: Economic Intelligence Committee created

(b) (1)  
 (b) (3) - 50 USC 3024 National Security Act of  
 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)

- 01 July: The Office of Communications is established by DCI Smith; Harold M. McClelland as chief
- 10 July: Korean truce talks open
- 23 August: Allen Dulles appointed D/DCI replacing Jackson; Wisner became DD/P replacing Dulles
- 08 September: World War II peace treaty signed with Japan; ratified 20 March 1952
- 23 October: NSC 10/5 increases CIA's Cold War operations responsibility
- 27 October: (U) Edward Lee Howard, future CIA case officer, is born

■ [REDACTED]

## 1952

- 01 January: The first Inspector General is named; DDI is established with Loftus E. Becker as chief.
- 03 January: Kent became head of ONE
- 25 January: Contingency Reserve Fund initiated

(b) (1)

(b) (3) - 50 USC 3024 National Security Act of 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)

[REDACTED]

- 01 March: The Contacts Branch is moved to DDI/OO
- 01 May: The Department of State bans US travel to Communist countries
- 27 May: European Defense Community established
- [REDACTED]
- 13 June: Brownell Report, by George A. Brownell, on SIGINT is completed and leads to the creation of the National Security Council (NSA)

■ [REDACTED]

- 19 June: Career Service concept is introduced
- 12 July: Huntington D. Sheldon becomes the head of the Office of Current Intelligence and a senior COMINT officer
- August: [REDACTED] OSI and military services agreed on division of labor for scientific intelligence production
- 01 August:
  - Office of Special Operations and Office of Policy Coordination merged under the DD/P and became Clandestine Services (Directorate of Plans), with FI and PP Staffs; Board was established to review CS activities
  - Richard M. Helms replaced Kirkpatrick as AD/SO and became C/OPS
- 20 August: A new Soviet five year plan calls for greatly increased industrial production
- 24 September: Iran rejected US/UK oil settlement; UK broke relations on 22 October
- 20 October: State of Emergency is declared in Kenya in response to the growing Mau Mau rebellion; troops and police arrested nearly 100 leaders, including Jomo Kenyatta, in an operation named Jock Scott
- 01 November: First US hydrogen bomb test
- 02 November: Photo-Intelligence Division created in ORR
- 04 November: Dwight D. Eisenhower elected United States President
- 22 November: (U) The airplanes of John Downey and Richard Fecteau are shot down during a mission over the People's Republic of China and they are captured

## 1953

- January: Sergey Popov became agent in place
- 20 January: Dwight D. Eisenhower inaugurated as President of the United States
- 21 January: Thirteen Communist Party USA (CPUSA) leaders are convicted under the Smith Act
- 27 January: CIA and DOD sign Command Relationship Agreement

- February: US/UK agree to joint operation against the Mossadeq regime in Iran
- 26 February: Allen Dulles became the DCI; Walter Bedell Smith went to the Department of State
- 01 March: Radio Liberty goes on the air
- 05 March: Joseph Stalin dies
- 15 March: Killian Committee report to ODM on US vulnerability to a surprise attack is issued
- 17 March: DCI Dulles defends CIA personnel before senator Joseph McCarthy's subcommittee
- 20 March: Office of Logistics is created
- 25 March: Mau Mau forces herded 120 Kikuyu into huts and set fire to them in Lari, Kenya; Most of the victims were the wives and children of Kikuyu home guards serving elsewhere
- 04 April: DDCI is made a statutory position
- 06 April: Aleksandr Orlov's story hits the newsstands in Life; Hoover and the FBI finally learn of Orlov (costello 342)
- [REDACTED]
- 13 April: DCI Dulles authorizes the MKULTRA drug testing program
- 27 April: President Eisenhower's Executive Order 10450 revises and reiterates the Truman Administration's 1947 federal employee loyalty program
- May:
  - Berlin Tunnel planning begins
  - Incursion of Vietnamese Communists into Laos
- 01 May: Robert Armory becomes DDI succeeding Loftus E. Becker
- 11 May: Art Lundahl becomes the head of Naval Photographic Interpretation Center (PID); PI reporting begins August 1953
- June: Kurt L. Ponger, Otto Verber, plead guilty to espionage and receives sentences; KGB officer Yuri Novikov PNG'd
- 17 June: Soviets crush anti-government riots in East Berlin
- 19 June: Julius and Ethel Rosenberg are executed in Sing Sing when President Eisenhower again denies executive clemency; AG Brownell tells Cabinet meeting that USG had convincing evidence against them that could not be used in their trial
- Summer: A Brooklyn newsboy receives a hollow nickel containing microfilm and passes it to the FBI
- 01 July: Harry Dexter White became the acting DD/A; appointed DDA on 1 May 1954
- 09 July: There is a showdown with Senator Joseph McCarthy over McGeorge Bundy
- 10 July: Ouster of Beriya, Soviet Internal Security Minister; subsequent upheaval in Soviet intelligence services
- 26 July: Korean armistice signed
- 27 July: Armistice ends Korean War
- 12 August:
  - USSR secretly explodes its first H-bomb (Joe-4)
  - [REDACTED]
- 19 August: [REDACTED] in Iran overthrows Iranian Premier Mohammed Mossadeq in Operation TPAJAX, restoring Shah
- 02 September: OCB is established replacing PSB
- October:
  - Sen. McCarthy and aides, enjoying new power since the 1952 GOP takeover of the Senate, interview David Greenglass in Lewisburg prison seeking new leads to wartime spies at the Signal Corps Laboratory at Ft. Monmouth NJ where Joel Barr, Vivian Glassman, et al once worked (rdosh 424)
  - ORR set up Military Economics Branch with Godaire as chief
- Autumn:
  - [REDACTED] (not MI6) induces KGB officer Yuri Rastvorov to defect in Tokyo (spycatcher)
  - NSA's Dr. Samuel Chew makes significant progress reading [REDACTED] messages
- 06 November: AG Brownell sparks controversy by claiming in a Chicago speech that former President Truman appointed Harry Dexter White to his post at the IMF despite FBI warnings that White was a Soviet agent

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(b) (3) - 50 USC 3024 National Security Act of 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)

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(b) (3) - 18 USC 798

(b) (3) - 50 USC 3024 (i)

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

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- 09 November: HCUA subpoenas former President Truman
- 16 November: Former President Truman publicly calls AG Brownell a liar
- November: Brownell reads former President Hoover's declassified November 1945 letter to former President Truman before a Congressional committee
- 23 November: Physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer's security clearance is suspended by the AEC
- Late November: Boston University professor and OSS veteran Maurice Halperin and wife depart the US via Mexico

## 1954

- Early 1954:
  - Formation of Estonian "government in exile."
  - "Rosenberg Law" makes espionage in peacetime a capital crime
  - Dr. Chew identifies [redacted] About 1/3 of the book is useful
  - NSC 5425s etc revamp NSC 17/6
  - Lavon Affair in Egypt; The attempt to discredit the Egyptian government by Mossad agents
- January: Manufacturers submit proposals to the Air Force for high flying planes for reconnaissance
- 04 January: SISS staffers debrief Guzenko in Ottawa (siss G)
- 07 January: President Eisenhower announced US "massive retaliation" defense strategy
- 24 January: KGB officer Lt. Yuri Alexandrovich Rastvorov defects to the CIA in Tokyo
- February:
  - GRU Maj. Peter Deriabin defects to the CIA in Vienna.
  - SNIE declares heavy turboprop bomber the main Soviet long-range plane
- 05 February: [redacted] it has its Rastvorov (storm birds, 68)
- 18 February: Nikolay Khoklov defects in Frankfurt
- 01 March: U.S. Capitol Shooting Incident; Five Congressmen wounded by Puerto Rican nationalist
- 13 March: The KGB is created
- 15 March: NSC 5412 defines scope of covert action
- April: Soviet agent Reino Hayhanen leaves the United States temporarily
- 01 April: (U) President Eisenhower authorized the creation of the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado
- 02 April: MVD Lt. Vladimir Mikhailovich Petrov, Acting Resident since Feb 1952, defects in Australia, bringing confirmation that Maclean and Burgess were in Moscow
- 07 April: President Eisenhower delivers "domino theory" speech
- 13 April: Australia's Prime Minister announces asylum for Petrov
- 17 April: Gamal Abdel Nasser takes control of Egypt
- 20 April: MVD Captain Evdokia Alexeevna Petrova? Defects in Darwin, on her way back to the USSR (Storm birds 120ff)
- April-June: Army-McCarthy hearings: Senate investigates McCarthy for forcing the US Army to grant favors to one of his staffers
- 07 May: Vietnamese Communists defeated French at Dien Bien Phu beginning the end of the French war in Indochina
- 12 May: Lockheed contacted the CIA about its new design for a reconnaissance plane
- 20 May: Attorney General Brownell authorizes the FBI to install microphones even if trespass involved (churchII60)
- 21 May: Nikolai E. Khokhlov testifies before SISS (ua 1-42)
- 29 May:
  - US expelled Soviet air attaché Leonoil Pivnev for espionage
  - Comprehensive ELINT program for the CIA is approved
- 01 June: AEC revokes Oppenheimer's security clearance
- 09 June: International Organizations becomes a separate Division with Meyer as chief

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 (b) (3) -18 USC 798  
 (b) (3) -50 USC 3024 (i)  
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- 14 June: Ngo Dinh Diem installed as Prime Minister to South Vietnam
- 18 June: Coup-related operations begin in Guatemala, PBSUCCESS
- 24 June: First of 5 defections of Soviet intelligence officers (b) (1)  
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- [REDACTED]
- July: National Indications Center is activated
- 04 July: Clark Committee on Intelligence Activities is set up under Congressional Hoover Commission
- 08 July: Doolittle Committee appointed by President Eisenhower to study the CIA's covert activity; report submitted 30 September
- 21 July: Geneva accord divides Vietnam, ending first Indochina war
- 26 July: Technological Capabilities Panel formed; James Killian chairman
- August: Reino Hayhanen and William Fisher meet operationally for the first time in a Flushing, NY theatre (rsf 23) Wm Sullivan says FBI tailed Hayhanen for years prior to 1957 (bureau 180)
- 03 August: The Department of Atomic Energy established under the Prime Minister through a Presidential Order
- 14 August: The US government publicizes Rastvorov case and his revelations
- 20 August: The US adopts a policy of direct aid to South Vietnam and establishes PEO in Laos
- Autumn: Venona points FBI toward Mark Zborowski, "Kant," (lamphere 87)
- 08 September: SEATO is established
- 13 September: CFA is renamed The Asia Foundation
- 23 October:
  - Paris conference creates the Western European Union
  - President Eisenhower begins aid to South Vietnam
- 30 October: Western allies agree to re-arm West Germany, integrate into NATO
- 19 November: CIA and Lockheed agree to build U-2 with Air Force support
- 24 November: President Eisenhower approves the concept of high altitude reconnaissance under civilian control
- 25 November: President Eisenhower approved the development of the U-2 aircraft
- December: Soviet illegals Morris and Lona Cohen, alias Helen and Peter Kroger and carrying NZ passports, arrive in London on their new assignment (chikov 181)
- 02 December:
  - FBI begins questioning dormant KGB asset Mark Zborowski, who eventually admits to helping KGB activities against Trotsky in pre-war France (costello 360)
  - Senate condemns Senator Joseph McCarthy which is less harsh than censure (caute 108)
- 20 December: Counterintelligence Staff formed under James Jesus Angleton

## 1955

- John Anthony Walker, future spy for the Soviet Union, joins the US Navy
- January: Training and support programs begin in Laos
- 11 January: Soviet Intelligence Branch transfers from CI Staff to SR Division (usci chron)
- 28 January: (U) A document, dated January 31, states that today Yuri Rastvorov, a Soviet defector, tells President Eisenhower in a private meeting that US and UN POW's were held in Siberia during the 1950-1953 Korean War
- February: Nikita Khrushchev emerged as key Soviet leader
- 03 February: DDA becomes DDS; incorporates DDP Admin Staff and ADs of Commo, Personnel, and Security
- 12 February: US MAAG begins training the South Vietnamese Army
- 05 March: Italian physicist Bruno Pontecorvo gives a press conference in Moscow saying he became a Soviet citizen in 1952 and now works at the Institute of Nuclear Physics

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- 11 April: Air India "Princess Kashmir" (Lockheed Constellation) is brought down by a bomb explosion in the sea near Natuna Island, Indonesia; 16 people are killed, a Koumintang (KMT)/Chinese Nationalist Party secret agent is suspected
- 17 April: Bandung Conference of Afro-Asian countries heralds advent of non-aligned movement
- 28 April: South Vietnam's war against the sects ends successfully
- 05 May: West Germany becomes sovereign state; the occupation ends
- 09 May: West Germany joins NATO
- 10 May: The Clark Committee completes its report
- 11 May: The Berlin Tunnel is operational and begins tapping into Soviet cable lines in East Berlin
- [REDACTED]
- 14 May: Warsaw Pact formed
- 15 May: Austrian State Treaty signed
- June:
  - Soviet illegal agent William Fisher (Rudolf Abel) takes home leave in Moscow, and complains to his superiors about the drinking and unreliability of his assistant Reino Hayhanen (rsf 23)
  - "Bomber gap" controversy begins
- 01 June:
  - ORR sets up special guided missiles staff; Proctor is chief
  - Basic Intelligence becomes a separate office
- 18 July: First East-West summit in Geneva begins
- 25 July: The first U-2 is delivered to a Nevada test site
- 29 July: An FBI internal study concludes Moscow is no longer using the CPUSA as a platform for espionage, although it still used the Party as a "potential" recruiting ground for spies (Church I:175 cites this as "The Communist Menace in the US Today")
- August:
  - The Krogers (Morris and Lona Cohen) set up a book shop on the Strand (morgan324)
  - New Soviet interest in underdeveloped countries; Soviet arms sales to Egypt marks expanded involvement in Third World
  - Members of the Algerian FLN massacre civilians in the town of Philippeville
- 04 August:
  - President Eisenhower signs authorization for \$46 million for new Headquarters Building in Virginia
  - Prototype U-2 made its first planned flight
- 08 August: (U) Alberto Gonzalez, future Attorney General of the US, is born
- 17 August: Low level Nationalist Chinese collection overflights of mainland China begin
- 28 August: Lynching of Emmet Louis Till in Mississippi
- 25 September: Orlov testifies in executive session before SISS (costello 358)
- 18 October: PNIOs adopted to identify requirements
- 23 October: *New York Times* names Kim Philby as "third man" in British spy ring
- 26 October: South Vietnam becomes a republic with Ngo Dinh Diem as President
- December: William Fisher returns to the United States from home leave and learns that Hayhanen has caused even more trouble
- 07 December: COPS Richard Helms approves expansion of HTLINGUAL into inspecting all US-USSR mail and illegal opening of selected letters (ch III 570)
- 28 December: NSC 5412/2 provides for departmental Designated Representatives to oversee covert action; called 5412 Committee

(b) (1)  
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## 1956

- CIA officer Edward Ellis Smith is compromised by KGB in Moscow (molehunt 47)
- 05 January: 1290-D Programs are assigned to CI Staff (usci chron)

- 10 January: The Air Force begins to release GENETRIX photoreconnaissance balloons
- 13 January: PBCFIA is established
- 21 January: HTAUTOMAT is created to exploit the future take from U-2
- 31 January: GMIC is created as an IAC committee
- 02 February: CAT/Laos aircraft charter agreement
- 05 February:
  - Last Launch of GENETRIX photo reconnaissance balloons by the Air Force
  - President Eisenhower creates the President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities (forerunner of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (PFIAB))
- 11 February: Guy Burgess and Donald Maclean admit espionage at Moscow press conference
- 14 February: Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev denounces Joseph Stalin in a "secret" speech to the 20th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party; the US Government obtains and publicizes the speech, to Moscow's embarrassment
- 29 February: Soviet agent Mark Zborowski testifies (after being subpoenaed) before a public hearing of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee; Zborowski refuses to divulge information about KGB activities in the United States (rmrstn 184)
- 08 March: NSC meeting approves CPUSA Cointelpro (jkd 31-33)
- April:
  - CIA recruits x in B?
  - CIA subcommittees formally established in House Armed Services and Appropriations Committees
- 01 April: Gehlen Organization turned over to West Germany as BND
- 11 April: Mansfield Resolution for joint Congressional watchdog committee voted down
- 17 April: Cominform is dissolved
- 21 April: East Germans discover Berlin Tunnel
- 23 April: Nikita Khrushchev boasts about Soviet guided-missile development
- 28 April-1 May: CPUSA National Committee meeting; some leaders are briefed on Khrushchev's Secret Speech (starobin 225)
- 29 May: An apparently panicked Jack Soble meets Boris Morros in New York and asks him to pass along a request for exfiltration (morros)
- 04 June:
  - The US Department of State releases Nikita Khrushchev's secret speech to the Twentieth Party Congress, in which Khrushchev denounced Stalin's crimes
  - [redacted] publication in the West of the "secret speech" by Khrushchev
- [redacted]
- 28 June: Riots in Poznan, Poland
- July: Soviet illegal William Fisher advises his assistant Reino Hayhanen to take a vacation (rsf 23)
- 04 July: First U-2 mission over the USSR
- [redacted]
- 10 July: U-2 stand-down after Soviet protest
- 26 July: Egypt nationalized Suez Canal company
- August: FBI launches COINTELPRO against the CPUSA
- 15 August: Soviet agent Jack Soble gives a letter addressed to the KGB's Vassili Zarubin to courier (and FBI informant) Boris Morros
- 22 August: Chinese fighters shoot down US Navy reconnaissance aircraft over the Shengszu Islands near China, killing all 16 crew members
- 29 August: Reconnaissance flights begin over the Middle East seeking evidence of war preparations
- 30 September: The FLN sets off bombs at the office of Air France and elsewhere in Algiers
- October:
  - [redacted]

(b) (1)

(b) (3)-50 USC 3024 National Security Act of 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)

(b) (1)

(b) (3)-50 USC 3024 National Security Act of 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)

- Crises and conflicts in Hungary and the Suez
- 05 October: (U) Sergei Tretyakov, future Russian SVR officer, is born
- 21 October: Kikuyu tribal police captured Dedan Kimathi, the last Mau Mau leader; His captured marked the effective end of the Mau Mau uprising in Kenya
- 23 October:
  - Hungarian revolution begins
  - Soviet tanks put down Hungarian uprising
- 24 October: Hungarian revolt breaks out
- 29 October:
  - Suez War begins with Israeli attack on Egypt in Sinai Desert
  - US Air Force directed Lockheed to develop DISCOVERER, SAMOS, and MIDAS programs
- 04 November: Soviet Army invades Hungary to suppress a popular uprising
- 05 November: UK, France join Israel in attack on Egypt
- 06 November: Dwight D. Eisenhower is re-elected President of the United States
- 07 November: Suez War ends
- December: PBCFIA recommends updating all NSCIDs (jackson II:138)

## 1957

(b) (1)

(b) (3) - 50 USC 3024 National Security Act of 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)

- William Martin and Bernon Mitchell are recruited into the NSA
- Early 1957:
  - [REDACTED]
  - Much of the year would be spent negotiating a newly re-drafted NSCID-5, with CIA fighting the military over the "agreed activities" definition (jackson II:139)
  - [REDACTED]
  - UK attack finds first re-use of key in Naval-GRU messages (mono 4, p 7)
- January: FBI informer Boris Morros hands over a letter that Soviet illegal Jack Soble has written to the KGB Illegals Directorate (Zarubin, head), warning that Zborowski could blow Soble's ring (costello 360)
- 05 January: US announces aid program for Middle Eastern countries facing Soviet threat, the Eisenhower Doctrine
- 19 January: FBI ends the Morros operation, ordering Morros home from Vienna (morros)
- 25 January: Jack and Myra Soble are arrested with Jacob Albam
- February: Outbreak of rural terrorism in South Vietnam
- 04 February: Federal grand jury in NY indicts the Sobles, Albam, and "Vassili Zubilin" for conspiracy to commit espionage
- 09-12 February: CPUSA's 16th National Convention
- 25 February: OCB placed within NSC Structure
- March: 5412 Committee renamed Special Group
- 01 March:
  - Sinai agreement created
  - Suez Canal reopened
- 09 March: Eisenhower Doctrine offers Middle East countries US protection against Communist aggression
- April: PBCFIA urged crash program to obtain information on Soviet missiles
- 10 April: The Sobles plead guilty
- 24 April: Soviet illegal Reino Hayhanen sails for France, having been recalled to Moscow
- 27 April: Jacob Albam pleads guilty
- 04 May: KGB officer Reino Hayhanen defects at US embassy in Paris (berkinow 96)

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- 11 May: FBI begins looking for "Mark" in New York, (berkinow 96) who has been alerted by Moscow and is planning his escape through Mexico (rsf 24)
- 17 May: William Fisher returns to New York from Daytona (berkinow 96)
- 23 May: FBI spots Fisher at his Brooklyn studio but loses him on the subway (berkinow 96)
- [REDACTED] (b) (1)  
(b) (3) - 50 USC 3024 National Security Act of 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)
- 17 June: Supreme Court in *Yates v. US* rules the government had enforced the Smith Act too broadly but targeting mere speech instead of actual action to overthrow the political system; the ruling makes the Act almost useless for prosecuting Communists
- 21 June: FBI detains KGB illegal William Fisher in New York; federal agents find spy gear in his apartment, together with pictures of Morris and Lona Cohen; Under questioning at the Alien Detention Facility in McAllen, TX, he declares his name is "Rudolph Ivanovich Abel" (rsf 24)
- 01 July: General Truscott appointed DD for Coordination; designated to revise NSCIDs
- 08 July: Federal grand jury in NY indicts George Zlatowski (ex-CIC) and wife Jane Foster Zlatowski (ex-OSS) in absentia (they were in Paris) for conspiracy to commit espionage; also indicted in absentia are several KGB officers: Zubilins, Anatoli Gromov, Mikhail Chaliapin, Stepan N. Choudenko. The case grew out of the Soble probe; the Zlatowskis had also used Morros as a courier (*New York Times*)
- 09 July: First public acknowledgment of NSA occurs 5 years after its establishment
- July - August: Propaganda effort at Moscow Youth Festival
- August: Initial interest shown in low-radar-profile plane for reconnaissance
- 07 August: William Fisher is formally arrested and charged amid massive publicity
- 21 August: First successful Soviet ICBM flight
- 27 August: First US ATLAS ICBM test failed
- August - October: Major series of U-2 overflights over USSR
- September: JAM SESSION to evaluate U-2 guided missile photography
- 07 September: Second Soviet missile test (b) (1)  
(b) (3) - 50 USC 3024 National Security Act of 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)
- 09 September: Alfred and Martha Dodd Stern, in Mexico City, indicted in absentia for espionage and conspiracy in connection with Jack Soble; they soon go to Prague
- 18 September: Meeting in Helms' office sets new DDP rules for informing the FBI of CI leads
- [REDACTED]
- 04 October: Soviets launch Sputnik, the first artificial satellite, creating dismay in the West about the pace of Soviet technological progress
- 08 October: Jack and Myra Soble, with Jacob Albam, are sentenced (Jack 7 yrs, Myra 4, Albam 5)
- 10 October: The Department of State creates the Bureau of Intelligence and Research
- 25 October: Federal jury in New York convicts William Fisher on three counts of espionage
- November:
  - Gaither Report is issued on US vulnerabilities to missile attacks
  - Guided Missiles Task Force is set up; Maury is chairman
- 03 November: Sputnik II launched
- 15 November: Fisher is sentenced to 30 years and conveyed to the Federal penitentiary in Atlanta
- 25 November: Senate hearings begin on US and foreign missile and satellite programs
- 27 November: Soviet GRU illegal Margarita Tairova arrives in New York and meets her husband, Walter; the FBI, tipped by the CIA asset GRU, watches both? Ltc. Pyotr Popov in E. Berlin [riebling 153]
- 02 December: Project HAIK approved
- 04 December: CIA and the US Air Force begin developing the CORONA photo satellite
- 08 December: Tairova meets Walter Tairova in New York
- 17 December: First successful US ICBM test

**1958**

- Early 1958:
  - CPUSA membership down to 5,000, according to John Gates; IT was 12,000 in early 1956 (starobin, 311)
  - [REDACTED]
- January:
  - CIA discloses HTLINGUAL, a project to intercept mail destined for the Soviet Union and China, to FBI and begins disseminating the take to the Bureau (ch III 570); No Soviet agents or illegals are caught as a result of HTLINGUAL (ch III 576-78)
  - Laos coalition broke down; rightists gained ascendancy
- 18 January: Coordinated CIB inaugurated
- 01 February: Egypt's President Gamal Abdel Nasser and Syria's President Shukri al Kuwatly proclaimed their countries the United Arab Republic
- [REDACTED]
- 24 February: First air supply mission to Indonesian dissidents
- 01 March: (U) The Atomic Energy Commission is established in the Department of Atomic Energy
- 12 March: Tairovs, tipped by surveillance, disappear from NY and apparently flee to Moscow
- 13 March: NSC Action 1873 decrees merger of USCIB and IAC into USIB (jackson II:91,164)
- 17 March: US Vanguard space rocket is launched
- 31 March:
  - Soviets suspended nuclear tests
  - Western countries observed voluntary testing moratorium
- April:
  - General revision of NSCIDs
  - [REDACTED]
- 21 April:
  - Zborowsky indicted for perjury
  - New NSCID 1 gave DCI clear mandate to coordinate foreign intelligence effort
  - NSCID 5 revised (usci chron)
- 24 April: Morris Child's (SOLO) first trip to Moscow (barron, 56)
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- July: CRITIC system for crisis communication goes into effect
- 29 July: National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is created
- 18 August: PIC is established
- 15 September:
  - First meeting of the new USIB approves revised NSCIDs; NSCIDs 9 and 17 merged into NSCID 6 (jackson II:91, 171)
  - CPUSA membership falls to 3,000; hardliners take control (secret world xxxii) Gus Hall replaces Eugene Dennis as Party leader
- November:
  - OXCART (SR-71) program approved
  - Second Berlin crisis begins; tensions would last until the construction of the Berlin Wall in August 1961
- 03 November: Three-year moratorium on nuclear tests begin
- 10 November: Berlin crisis begins

**1959**

- January:
  - North Vietnam adopts strategy of "armed struggle" in South Vietnam
  - [REDACTED]
- 01 January: Richard M. Bissell, Jr. becomes DD/P, replaced Wisner who transfers for health reasons

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- 02 January: Fidel Castro assumes power in Cuba
- 06 February: First Titan ICBM is launched
- [REDACTED]
- 16 February: DPD forms in DDP; consolidated CIA air activities
- March: FBI develops better mail screening criteria from information supplied by an illegal (ch III 649)
- 05 March: The first of a series of bilateral agreements with Turkey, Iran, and Pakistan are made providing for intelligence collection sites
- [REDACTED]
- 22 March: OO opens field office in Miami to deal with Cubans in Florida
- 30 March: DDP created a separate Africa Division
- 31 March: CAT renamed Air America
- April:
  - CIA tells UK about Sniper (spycatcher 128)
  - Soviets resume ICBM testing
- June: ADP center is established
- 25 June: First CORONA test fails
- July: Pathet Lao opts out of Laotian Government; US announced training and aid programs for Laos
- August: Hyland Panel determines Soviet pace on missile deployment was deliberate, not crash
- 19 August: CENTO is established
- [REDACTED]
- 02 September: Pathet Lao launches offensive operation
- 15 September: Nikita Khrushchev visits the US, departs on 27 September
- October: Popov arrested
- 01 October: FBI institutes Survey no. 1 to use the new methods to screen mail from the US to Western Europe; FBI later claimed the program caught 3 illegals before ending in 1966 (ch III 641, 652)
- November:
  - Khrushchev boasts about Soviet rocket production
  - The DCI assigns a high priority to countering Communist subversion in the Western Hemisphere
- 03 November: President Eisenhower lays cornerstone of CIA Headquarters Building
- December: NSA cryptanalysts William H. Martin and Bernon F. Mitchell offer their services to the Soviets (andrew 458)
- 08 December: DCIDs 5/1, 5/2, 5/3 and 5/4 revamp coordination of FI and CI, liaison, cover support, and CI recordkeeping (usci chron)
- 31 December: General Phoumi becomes head of the Laotian Government; the political situation is deteriorated

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## Useful Links

(b) (3) - 50 USC 3024 National Security Act of 1947 Section 102A(i) (1)

- CIA History & Heritage Web Site [REDACTED]
- Intelligence History
- Center for the Study of Intelligence
- IC History on DNI Connections [REDACTED]
- CIA Museum
- Studies in Intelligence
- Intelligence Community Oral History
- Foreign Relations of the United States Series, 1950-55, The Intelligence Community [REDACTED]

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